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Otter Creek Church of Christ

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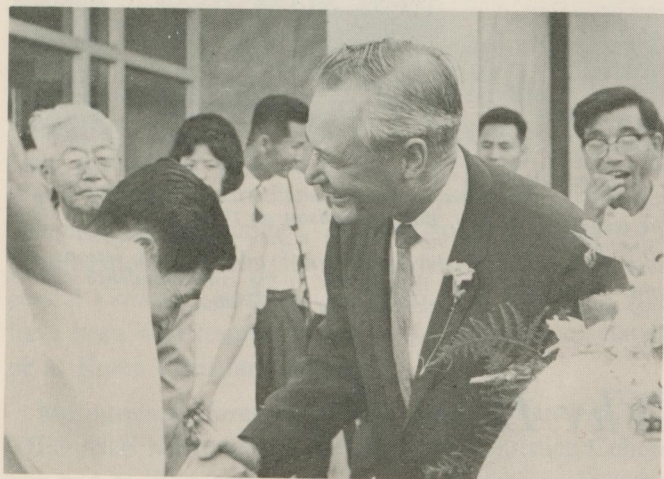
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The KOREAN REPORTER

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DECEMBER 1965

The Sun Stood Still Fourteen Hours



Bro. Chesshir is greeted at the Seoul airport by a number of the Korean brethren. At the left, wearing glasses, is Bro. S. K. Dong, who established the first Church of Christ in Korea in the late 1940's.

It was just before sunset when the Chesshir's big jet lifted off from Seattle and started following the setting sun toward Japan. For most of the flight, the sun lingered just above the horizon, as in the miracle when the sun stood still in the days of Joshua.

A number of the missionaries and Korean brethren gathered at the airport to welcome the Chesshirs upon their arrival in Seoul on September first. A special service of welcome was held a few days later at the Hyo Chong Don Church.

Brother Chesshir had been in America for a year of fund raising and speaking.

The Chesshir family first entered the Korean work in 1954. They were the first American family to go to Korea to preach the gospel. In the eleven years since that time they have continued to sacrifice that the work of the Lord in Korea might advance.

Haskell Chesshir's vision is great. Korea and the world can be evangelized in this generation. He wrote in his last letter, "Our responsibilities are fearful and exacting in this hustling, bustling city of 3,400,000 people. In 1954 the church of Christ meant nothing in this great city (Seoul) but today we are at the center of gravity in a great, growing community. Faith has brought us this far and faith will carry us onward."

Bro. Chesshir will reassume his duties as President of Korean Christian College, where over one hundred Korean

Auto Crash Injures Missionary

Bill Richardson was seriously injured in a three car accident in Seoul, Korea on Monday morning, November 15. Friends waited and prayed as Bill underwent emergency surgery. All of us are thankful to learn that Bill will be all right. His injuries are described as a concussion and a fractured bone near the shoulder.

Bill's car was hit in back and then in front by two separate taxis. Other people were injured in the accident but the extent of their injuries is not known.

Brother Richardson has been a missionary in Korea since 1958. When discharged from the Army in Korea his family flew to join him there. He spent 1960 in America studying Bible at Harding Graduate School and returned to Korea the following year. In addition to teaching Bible at Korea Christian College, Bill works with orphans in the city of Suwon and teaches servicemen and Koreans in WiJomBy. He is sponsored by the American Military congregation in Seoul.

When the accident occurred, Bill was preparing to fly to Japan where he was scheduled to speak at a missionary workshop.

Please join with us in praying for Bill's speedy recovery.

students are being prepared to lead the church in Korea. He will also preach for the Doung Chong Dong congregation and continue to help promote the cause of Christ in every other way.



The Hyo Chong Dong Church was filled with friends to greet the Chesshirs upon their return. This is the finest church building owned by Churches of Christ in Korea.

They Read To Be Saved

Over forty persons have been baptized and two new congregations have been started as the result of the new Korean Bible Correspondence course.

In the Summer of 1964 the first issues of the thirty-lesson series were printed on the new press at Korean Christian College. The series consists of nine Old Testament lessons and twenty-one New Testament lessons and is entitled "Studies in the Bible." In August of 1964, letters were sent to all Churches of Christ urging them to enroll. Applications for enrollment literally began to pour in. By January, 1965, over 3,000 were taking the course, and by the end of February the number had swelled to 8,000. By August, just one year since the course began, enrollments had grown beyond 22,000!

The heaviest concentration of students is from the Seoul-Inchon area, but lessons are sent to over 90% of the counties in Korea. There are 368 soldiers in the Korean army taking the course. 111 inmates at the Inchon juvenile prison are also studying.

The results so far have been very rewarding and give promise of even greater success in the months to come. In addition to the forty who have been baptized, response cards, which are now sent out with lesson No. 29, are being received regularly. In July, for example, ninety-eight response cards were received. Twenty-one of these expressed a desire to be baptized, thirty-two asked for an instructor to visit them, and almost all requested additional study material.

At least two churches have been started by graduates of the course. One is meeting in Inchon Prison where eight graduates of the course have become Christians. The other church, near Suwon, south of Seoul, was established through the efforts of Bro. Park Dai Yong. Bro. Yong, was converted as a result of the course in January. He wrote a letter saying, "I heartily appreciate the opportunity of finishing the Bible Studies course which has influenced me in many ways until now. In consequence, I've been released from the bondage which has bound my life till now. . . . I earnestly ask you for your continuous leadership in the future, too. I also made up my mind to exert myself to the utmost for preaching Christ and carrying out His purpose." Two months later, a second letter was received from Bro. Yong saying that he had started a church and wanted the missionaries to visit them. Bro. Park Kil Jae went and found twenty families worshipping and studying regularly.

The demands upon the staff, which is led by Bros. O. P. Baird, Bill Ramsay, and Kim Jin Kyu, have been heavy. At present, over 600 pieces of mail are handled each day. Twenty students at Korean Christian College are employed part-time to assist in this massive effort. Still, lack of adequate resources and help have forced the staff to discourage new enrollments for the time being. Additional funds are needed if this valuable teaching method is to be used to its full potential.



Pictured above is the print shop where the Korean Bible Correspondence Course is published. It was built in 1963 under the leadership of Bro. Bill Richardson on the grounds of Korean Christian College. It now houses a new Japanese offset press, which is used to produce series of Sunday School lessons and other needed materials in addition to the correspondence course. One of the student workers stands in the doorway.

Why Have A Correspondence Course In Korea?

There is but one reason for expending so much effort and resources upon the Bible Correspondence Course: It gets results. It is a proven method of reaching Koreans with the gospel and it can deepen their knowledge of the Bible. In addition to the results listed above, Bro. Bill Ramsay writes of further evidence of its effectiveness:

"The literacy rate in Korea is 97%. Most Koreans can read and write. They usually read anything they can get their hands on and seldom will even throw a daily newspaper away. The denominations have had far-reaching results through their literature programs in Korea. One denomination claims they sold over 23,000,000 pages of religious literature to the public in 1963 alone! At present their printers are working their five large presses in Seoul at record capacity. Their membership has also grown—from 13,390 in 1953 (after fifty years of mission work) to 21,757 today."

With the help of Churches and Christians in America, we believe that the Bible Correspondence Course will continue to grow and reach many lost Korean people with the gospel of Christ.

We're Training Preachers— But Need Help!

One hundred and four native Koreans are enrolled at the present time in Korea Christian College. Seventy-four of these are majoring in an area of religious work. Sixty-four of the students are men and forty are women.

The motto of Korea Christian College is "Teaching Faithful Men to Teach Others" (2 Tim. 2:2). This is the basic reason why the college is in operation. American missionaries could never personally preach to every person in Korea, but enough trained Korean workers can do the job.

Students and graduates of Korea Christian College have been converting souls to Christ for several years. One young evangelist, Brother Shin, baptized forty people in one meeting last summer. Another young man started a congregation, baptizing thirty-eight people. The most successful Christian workers in Korea today are those who have been well trained, either in the high school classes or at Korea Christian College.

More trained Korean workers are needed, but FACILITIES ARE NOT AVAILABLE. Korea Christian College has had to turn away students because it was crowded beyond the limits of the Ministry of Education. Funds are not yet available for the two buildings which are needed immediately:

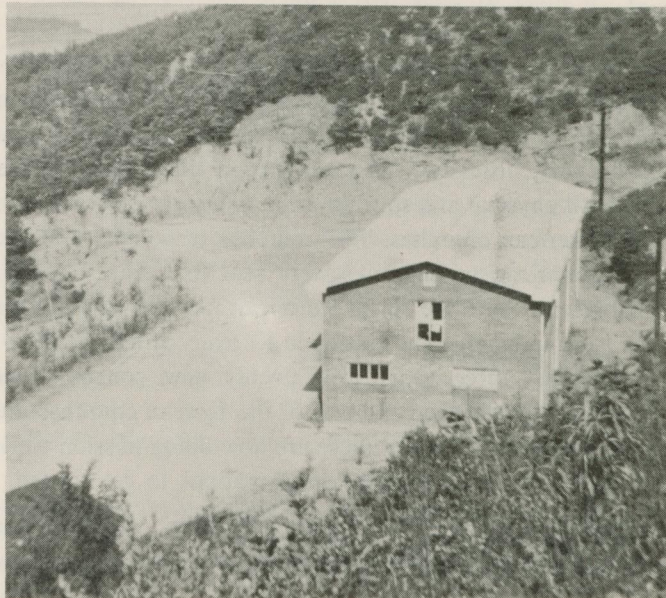
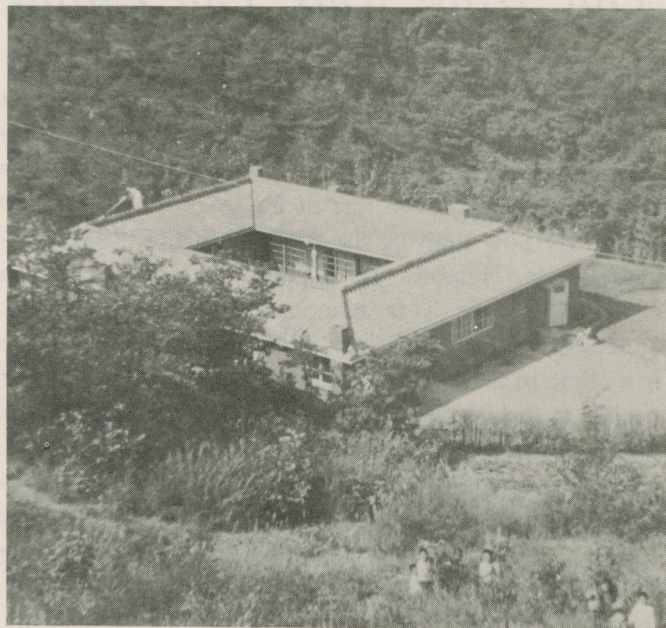
1. An all-purpose building. Estimated cost—\$60,000. This building would be used for offices, class rooms and work shops.
2. A Boys Dormitory. Estimated cost—\$40,000.

The Otter Creek Church has pledged itself to raise the necessary funds. Individual contributions are needed. We urge you to contribute. Yet what is urgently needed is **REGULAR MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS** from congregations. We plead with our sister congregations to consider the great need and great possibilities. **HELP US IN THIS IMPORTANT WORK.**

Top Photo: This is the new girls' dormitory, completed in 1964. It can accommodate thirty-two girls. Modern kitchen and bath facilities are included in the building.

Center Photo: This is the present main school building, containing both offices and classes.

Bottom Photo: This is the present boys' dormitory. It can house only sixteen boys. A new boys' dorm is one of the school's most pressing needs.



The Miles And The Chuck Holes

Over 11,000 men, women, and children now gather in nearly forty congregations each Lord's day to worship God and study His word. New congregations are now being established at the rate of one each month. 22,000 people are now studying the Bible through a correspondence course. Numbers are baptized each week. Korean Christian College is training over one hundred native Koreans to spread the gospel to their own people. There is a clinic in Seoul which serves those who can't pay for needed medical attention. There is a home for the aged in Kwanju, and a home for widows and orphans in Pusan. Through the "Cows for Korea" program, Christian farmers are learning to help themselves and many needy people are receiving milk, people who would otherwise suffer severe mal-nutrition. At two junior high schools in Seoul, over four hundred children are taught the Bible daily. Two relief centers distribute food and clothes, aiding 2,370 people in 1964.

Great progress has been made since the first congregation at Nasi Dong was established by Bro. S. K. Dong in the late 1940's. Christian servicemen who fought in Korea in the early fifties saw the great need of the Korean people for both physical and spiritual help and began to plead with the American churches. The churches responded and the first American missionaries were sent to Korea in 1954. At present, there are seven American families working for the Lord in Korea. The church in Korea continues to grow. In the last three years over twenty new congregations have been established. Several of the Korean churches are self-supporting. Some of these are now doing mission work of their own, helping other congregations to get started.

Still, the work has just begun. The nation of Korea has over 27,000,000 people. 3,000,000 of these live in the



This is the high school class at the Teung Chong Dong congregation. At the extreme right is Kim Chong Soon, the teacher of the class. The six students kneeling in front were all baptized in September, 1965.

capital city of Seoul. Most of the Korean people still have not heard the gospel of Christ.

There are also immediate pressing needs—which only additional funds can relieve. The correspondence course has had to temporarily stop enrolling new students because of insufficient resources. Students have been turned away from Korean Christian College because of insufficient buildings and housing. An all-purpose building and a boys dormitory are needed desperately. The school has reached the limit of enrollment allowed by the Korean Ministry of Education for a school with its building capacity.

If the nation of Korea is to be evangelized, we, the American churches, will have to give *now* and continue to give for years to come. "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white already unto harvest." (John 4:35)

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